

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC MEETING: Alleghany County Governmental Complex – Board of Supervisors Room, 9212 Winterberry Avenue located near Low Moor, VA, on **Thursday March 4, 2010** from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Directions: From I-64 heading west, Take exit 21 (Route 696). Take a right of the exit onto 696, then an immediate right onto Winterberry Avenue (Route 1101). The Alleghany County Governmental Complex is located approximately 1/2 mile on the left side of the road.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) announces a public meeting to discuss a study to restore water quality in the Jackson River watershed.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: Virginia agencies have been working to identify sources of pollution causing low dissolved oxygen levels and biological impairment (general standard) in the Jackson River watershed. Dissolved oxygen levels periodically fall below the minimum water quality standard, which decreases the suitability of the water to support aquatic life. The general standard violation means that water quality does not support a natural aquatic community.

The following is a list of the “impaired” waters, the length of the impaired segment, their location and the reason for the impairment: Jackson River (I04R–11.21 miles), Alleghany, Botetourt, Covington, dissolved oxygen; Jackson River (I04R–24.21 miles), Alleghany, Botetourt, Covington, aquatic life.

During the study, the state agencies developed a Total Maximum Daily Load, or a TMDL, for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, contamination levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by close of business on April 5, 2010. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at the public meeting announced in this notice.

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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